REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herewith, which place the application into condition for allowance. The present amendment is being made to facilitate prosecution of the application.

I.   STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS

Claims 1-7 are pending in this application. Claims 1 and 5-7, which are independent, are hereby amended. No new matter has been introduced. Support for this amendment can be found throughout the Specification as originally filed, and specifically on page 20. It is submitted that these claims, as originally presented, were in full compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112. Changes to claims are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §101, §102, §103, or §112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicants are entitled.

II.   REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,870,570 to Bowser (hereinafter, merely "Bowser") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,993,782 to Newberry, et al. (hereinafter, merely "Newberry").

Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*:

"A portable information terminal apparatus comprising:...

> acquiring means for acquiring a plurality of pieces of program information;
>
> **wherein said acquiring means acquires said program information by issuing a request including a unique user ID and acquires said program information applicable to the user ID.**" (Emphasis added)

As understood by Applicants, Bowser relates to a system for transferring data from a television receiver to a display device and a shared data device. The system includes a digital television receiver, a display device, at least one shared data device, and a communications channel coupled to the television receiver and the shared data devices. The television receiver receives, decodes, and processes a digitally encoded television signal. In addition, an auxiliary data signal, sent with the digitally encoded television signal, is sent to at least one shared data device. Each of the shared data devices may be a printer, another television receiver, a digital video tape recorder, or a personal digital assistant (PDA). The auxiliary data may be an electronic program guide such that a viewer may print a program menu for subsequent review. Upon reviewing the printed program menu, the viewer may then select a channel for viewing or program a video tape recorder to record a selected channel. Alternatively, a viewer may transfer the electronic program guide to a PDA, review the program menu on the PDA, and subsequently program the television receiver, via the PDA, to select a channel for viewing or program a video tape recorder, via the PDA, to record a selected channel.

As understood by Applicants, Newberry relates to a system of defining, creating and decoding composite virtual channels which supports dynamic channel and event substitution. A method, for use in a decoder for acquiring a program conveyed on more than one broadcast channel, involves generating a program guide display. The program guide display lists programs

being broadcast on a plurality of broadcast channels during specified broadcast time segments and also lists a particular program on both a first and a second broadcast channel. The particular program is acquired from the first broadcast channel in response to user selection of either of the first and second broadcast channels.

Applicants respectfully submit that Bowser and Newberry, taken either alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest the above-identified features of claim 1. Specifically, Bowser and Newberry do not teach or suggest a portable information terminal apparatus comprising, an acquiring means for acquiring a plurality of pieces of program information, wherein said acquiring means acquires said program information by issuing a request including a unique user ID and acquires said program information applicable to the user ID, as recited in independent claim 1.

Therefore, Applicants submit that independent claim 1 is patentable.

For reasons similar to, or somewhat similar to, those described above with regard to independent claim 1, independent claims 5-7 are also believed to be patentable.

III.   DEPENDENT CLAIMS

The other claims in this application are each dependent from one of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for at least the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.
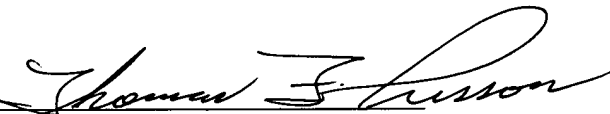
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CONCLUSION

In the event the Examiner disagrees with any of statements appearing above with respect to the disclosures in the cited reference, or references it is respectfully requested that the Examiner specifically indicate those portions of the reference, or references providing the basis for a contrary view.

Please charge any additional fees that may be needed, and credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are patentable and Applicants respectfully request early passage to issue of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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